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Docket No.: **2002-IP-006435**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: James D. Vick, Jr.

Serial No.: 10/078,839

Filed: February 10, 2002

Entitled: **DEEP SET SAFETY VALVE**

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Gay, Jennifer Hawkins

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION  
OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 CFR 1.97(C))**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Information Disclosure Statement transmitted herewith is being filed after three months of the filing date of the above-identified application and after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final action or notice of allowance.

A check in the amount of \$180 is enclosed herewith in payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(c).

As listed on the accompanying form PTO-SB-08A, the Applicants hereby call the examiner's attention to the following information of which they are aware, in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56.

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

GB 2379562A  
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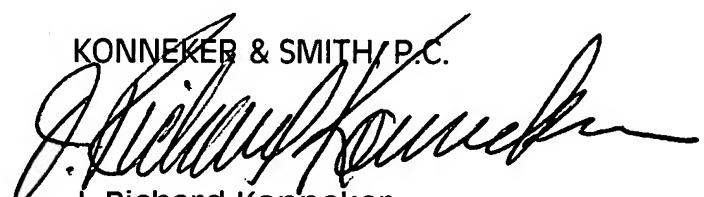
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The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Copies of the listed foreign patent documents are enclosed herewith. Written notification that the listed documents have been considered in their entirety, by return of a copy of the enclosed form completed by the examiner, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KONNEKER & SMITH, P.C.



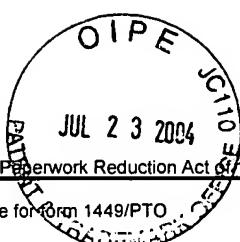
J. Richard Konneker  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 28,867

Dated: July 19, 2004

660 N. Central Expwy. - Suite 230  
Plano, Texas 75074  
972/516-0030

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

Sheet 1 of 1

| <i><b>Complete if Known</b></i> |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number              | 10/078,839         |
| Filing Date                     | February 10, 2002  |
| First Named Inventor            | James D. Vick, Jr. |
| Art Unit                        | 3672               |
| Examiner Name                   | Gay, Jennifer      |
| Attorney Docket Number          | 2002-IP-006435     |

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>Or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       | GB 2379562A   | 03-12-2003                     | Chu  |   |                |
|                          |                       | DE 4214848A1  | 11-11-1993                     | Crane  |   |                |
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**Examiner  
Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date  
Considered** \_\_\_\_\_

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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